(a) whether some new tourists spots are being developed in the country particularly in Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Development of new tourist spots is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Central Department of Tourism extends some financial assistance for projects and schemes aimed at augmentation of tourism infrastructure at places suggested by State Governments. As regards Maharashtra, the State Government have proposed for Central financial assistance for tourist lodges at Lattur and Sindkhed Raja, tourist reception centre at Pune, wayside amenities at 2 locations, tourist complex at Karla (Phase-II), passenger oriented wayside amenity at Manor, purchase of adventure and sports equipment, publicity and upgradation of facilities during 1991-92.

Bridge at Vapi

2964. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had decided to construct an overbridge on level crossing near Vapi station a few years ago;

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting the construction work; and

(c) when this project will be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government has not yet furnished an acceptable detailed estimated for the bridge approaches to be executed by them.

(c) The work can be taken up for execution only after the estimate is sanctioned.

[*Translation*]

Facilities to Railway Employees

2965. SHRI KALKA DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme to issue two annual passes to class IV railway employees after their retirement and to constitute a separate wage board for railways employees is being formulated; and

(b) if so, the time by which it will be implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Any liberalisation in existing Scheme of Grant of Passes to Retired Group 'D' Railway employees will have wide repercussions and hence it is difficult to grant them more facilities.

As regards Constitution of a separate Wage Board for Railway employees, Railway employees form part of Central Government employees and are governed by the general Government policy.

[*English*]

New Railway Zone for Karnataka

2966. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: